

## Seeley Lab rsfMRI preprocessing instructions

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### Directory Setup:

Each subject has a top-level directory which is typically named with subjectID and date but not a requirement. The script only looks for folder structure and files within the top-level directory.

To setup a subject, create the following structure:

**<top\_level\_directory>/:**

**struc/:**

**strucraw/:** Put only the raw 3D .nii structural T1 file in struc/strucraw/

**rsfmri/:**

**rawfmri/:** Put only the raw 3D .nii BOLD fMRI files in rsfmri/rawfmri/

### To run:

#### **Prior to launching the Toolbox:**

- In Matlab, create a cell array variable that lists **<top\_level\_directory>/rsfmri/**

for all of your subjects, like so:

```
subjdir={' /data5/patientNIC/10886/10886_20110621/rsfmri'  
        '/data5/patientNIC/10886/10886_20120109/rsfmri'  
        '/data5/patientNIC/12162/12162_20110509/rsfmri'}';
```

- Save the variable into a .mat file:

```
save('subjdir_3_subjects.mat','subjdir')
```

-Add the SeeleyPreprocess directory to your Matlab path

#### **Launching the Toolbox and running your jobs:**

-Launch the Seeley Preprocessing Toolbox by running the command:  
'Preprocess' in the matlab terminal.

-When prompted select the .mat file with your subjdir variable.

-CHECK PARAMETERS: Review default parameters listed under "Pipeline Specifications" if your basic parameters differ or you would like to run a different configuration, click on "View & Edit Default Parameters"

It is important to check the basic parameters and customize them for your scanner/protocol characteristics. These include TR, Number of TRs and Slice

Order. If you used an ascending or descending acquisition for your rsfMRI images, make sure you disable "Interleave Correct" under the 'Advanced Scanner Parameters' section.

-SCAN DIRECTORIES: When the "Pipeline Specifications" panel displays your desired configuration hit the "Scan Subject Directories" button. This will go into each of your subject's directories and will determine if the correct number of functional and structural files exist, corresponding to the user defined number of TRs and rsfMRI/Structural image prefixes.

After scanning completes, if the number listed under "Subjects ready to preprocess" does not match your number of subjects, check the failed subject listings by clicking the buttons next to each fail category and check the listed subject's directories to make sure they have the correct number of scans and the correct file prefixes.

-RUN: When the "Subjects ready to preprocess" count matches the count of your subject list, the last step before hitting run is to specify the processing type:

Parallel Processing- requires Sun Grid Engine to be installed, configured and "qsub" must be on the path. Matlab will pass to whatever queues are available to qsub. Each subject will be run on its own display-free instance of matlab in the background. Logs are saved to the subjects log directory in `interfmri_<output suffix>` as text files that begin with e (errors) and o (stdout).

Serial Processing- Runs all subjects within the current matlab session, one at a time. If a subject in the list fails, the next subject will begin processing and an error log will be saved to the failed subject's `interfmri_<output suffix>/log` directory named `PreprocError.mat`

Hit Run and refer to the command window in matlab for progress on job submission to SGE (if parallel) or progress on running each subject (if serial).

-CHECKING PROCESSING COMPLETION: See the Post-Processing Directory Organization Chart on the next page. A subject that completes successfully will have output images in the **`processedfmri_<analysis_suffix>/images/`** folder. These images are used as input to the first level analyses.

### **Post-Processing Directory Organization:**

Each subject's data will be organized in the following fashion after preprocessing:

**<top\_level\_directory>/:**

**struc/:**

strucraw/: contains raw structural T1 .nii file

strucprocessed\_<analysis\_suffix>: contains processed T1 .nii files  
including skull stripped image (\_brain) used for  
coregistration

**rsfmri/:**

**rawfmri/:** contains all raw 3D .nii BOLD fMRI files

**\*interfmri\_<analysis\_suffix>/:** where all intermediate files between  
raw and processed data are

**\*images/:** contains all 3D .nii fMRI files from intermediate  
stages of preprocessing

**\*melodic.ica/:** melodic ICA directory

motion\_corr: motion correction file directory

motion\_report.png: image file used to check fMRI

motion. Main values to check are "Max trans"  
( $< 3$  mm), "max rot" ( $< 3$  degrees), "# spikes"  
( $\sim < 10\%$  of total number of volumes)

**\*log/:** stores SPM job files and the subject-tailored

rsfmri\_preprocess\_MASTER.m script

example\_func2standard.png: image file used to check  
fMRI normalization quality

**\*processedfmri\_<analysis\_suffix>/:**

**\*images/:** contains all 3D .nii fMRI files after all  
preprocessing is done

**\*Folders created by Preprocessing**

### **A bit of detail:**

RunSGEpreproc\_MASTER calls a script named

/data/mridata/truji/SGE\_PreProc/PrepPreprocCloud.m

PrepPreprocCloud.m automatically finds the paths/filenames for all of the fMRI  
and structural files and stores them in a variable called preprocSetup.mat

RunSGEpreproc\_MASTER updates a template of the main preprocessing script  
(rsfmri\_preprocess\_MASTER.m) that is customized for the current subject

RunSGEpreproc\_MASTER then calls a script qsub\_run\_MASTER that submits  
the subject-tailored rsfmri\_preprocess\_MASTER.m file to the cluster